

OSHIOJI & GABRILO BOYLU • *Omnia & Omnia*

"Seichi Hayashi's elegant and startling images mix cartooning with keen observation to unveil a narrative as delicate as a moth's wing."

—David Mazzucchelli, *City of Glass*

Seichi Hayashi produced *Red Colored Elegy* between 1970 and 1971, in the aftermath of a politically turbulent and culturally vibrant decade that promised but failed to deliver new possibilities. With a combination of spare line work and visual codes borrowed from animation and film, the quiet melancholy lives of a young couple struggling to make ends meet are beautifully captured in this poetic masterpiece. Uninvolved with the political movements of the time, Ichiro and Sachiko hope for surviving better, but they're no revolutionaries; their spare time is spent drinking, smoking, daydreaming, and sleeping—together and at times with others. While Ichiro attempts to make a living from his comics, Sachiko's parents are eager to arrange a marriage for her, but Ichiro doesn't seem interested. Both in their relationship and at work, Ichiro and Sachiko are unable to say the things they need to say, and like any couple, at times say things to each other that they do not mean, ultimately communicating as much with their body language and what remains unsaid as with words.

Red Colored Elegy is informed as much by underground Japanese comics of the time as it is by the French Nouvelle Vague, and its cultural references range from Japanese to Ken Takakura. Its influence in Japan was so large that Morio Agata, a prominent Japanese folk musician and singer-songwriter, debated with a love song written and named after it.

"I wanted to see like Sachiko and Ichiro to have aspirations even while living statically and humbly."

—Morio Agata



SEICHI HAYASHI

RED COLORED ELEGY











RED COLORED ELEGY

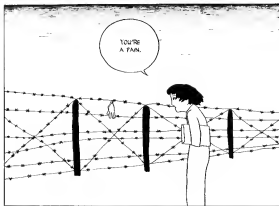
SEIICHI HAYASHI

drawn & quarterly • montreal



I'M A MUGGANT BOO,
LETTING OUT A SINGLE CRY,
MY SHADOW FLIES
WITH A SINGLE TWO BAR,
I FLY EAST TODAY,
WEST TOMMORROW,
MY LIFE IS AN OPEN BOOK,
I LIVE IT PAGE BY PAGE,
FOR WHAT I DON'T KNOW,
BUT LIKE THE GHOST IN THE MACHINE,
HELLED FOR NOTHING,
I GIVE MY LIFE TO EACH PAGE I DRAW





WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
THESE DAYS?

I THOUGHT
YOU WERE
GOING TO
DRAW
COMICS.



THINGS ARE
BAD AT THE
COMPANY.

HEL
KUDOHAWA,
THE
DIRECTOR,
IS HAVING A
REALLY HARD
TIME TOO.



ARE YOU
COMING TO
THE NEXT
PARTY?



MAYBE I'LL
QUIT MY
TRADING JOB.

IT'S SO
BORING.



MAYBE I'LL
GET
MARRIED...

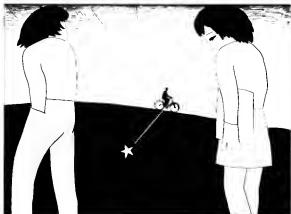


I'M ALMOST
DONE THOUGH.

IT'S JUST ME
AND GAKO
NOW.

WE HAVE
MAYBE
THREE
CUTS LEFT...





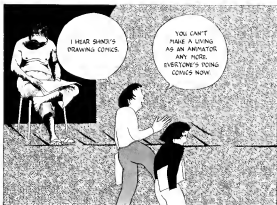


T		F. NO	F	
CAMERA	TV - FRAME	ACTION	DIALOGUE	
S		"OH, SO YOU DRAW WHAT YOU LIKE. THAT MUST BE GREAT!"		
C				
CAMERA				
S		"AN ANIMATOR? SO YOU DRAW COMES. WHAT ARE YOUR EXPENSE REQUIREMENTS?"		
C				
CAMERA				
S		"WHAT'S YOUR OCCUPATION?" "ANIMATOR!"		
C				
CAMERA				
S				
C				
CAMERA				



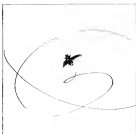
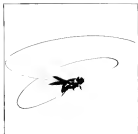
























WHAT A



MIDDLE
SCHOOL
GRAD





NEEDS
TO



TO
SUCCEED







SANDANAKU UNITS























SIGN: HELP



WELL, HELLO!
I'D LIKE TO SHOW
YOU MY WORK!

ROOM TITLE: GARD SIGN IN WINDOW: REJECTED











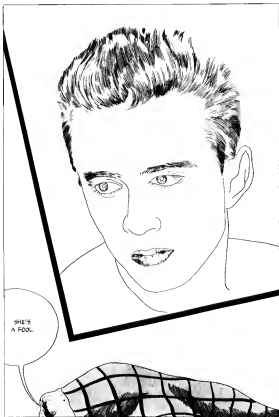










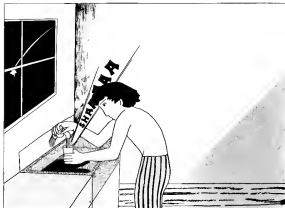






















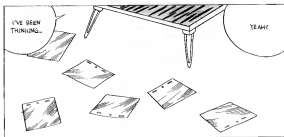
I'M FRIGHTENED.
HOLD ME!































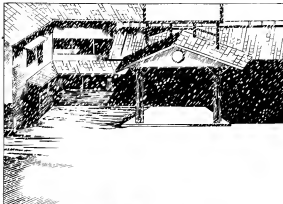






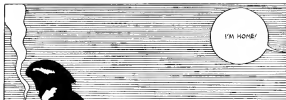




























WE'VE FINALLY MANAGED TO
MAKE IT BLOOM
LET'S PROTECT THIS FLOWER
FOREVER
SO IT WILL STAND AGAINST RAIN
AND STORM
DREAMS, THEY BLOSSOM
AT NIGHT...



ARE YOU REALLY
QUITTING THE
COMPANY?



I'M NOT
SURE!

IT'LL MEAN
WE HAVE ONE
LESS UNION
MEMBER.



THE COMPANY'S A
SCAM. THEY DON'T
HIRE ANY FULL-TIME
EMPLOYEES.

WELL,
THAT'S THEIR
STRATEGY...



BUT WHY ARE YOU
QUITTING? ARE
YOU GETTING
HARRIED?



THEY SAY YOU'RE
DARNING IN THE
DOUGH.



...THAT'S
NOT
TRUE.

AT LEAST COME
TO THE UNION
MEETINGS.



WHAT ABOUT THE
PARTY FOR THE
YOUNG MEN AND
WOMEN'S LABOR
ASSOCIATION?







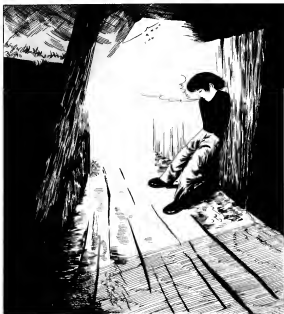












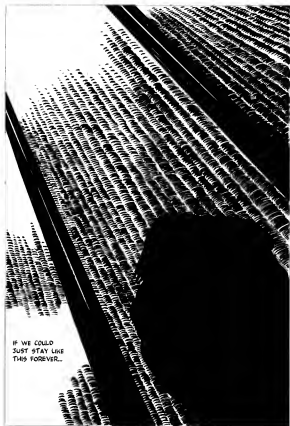












IF WE COULD
JUST STAY LIKE
THIS FOREVER...

















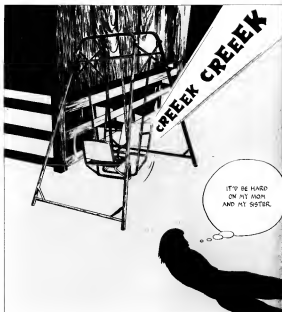












I WENT BACK TO IWATE
WITH MY SISTER...

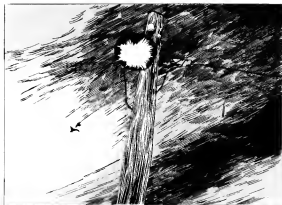
BZZZZ
BZZZZ

























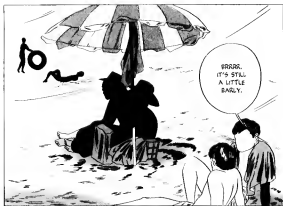














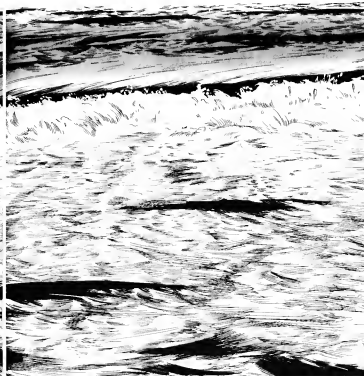












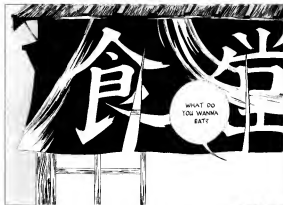


**THE WIND
HOWLS
WOAH
WOAH
WOAH**

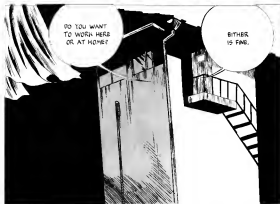




POSTER: CONTACT THE POLICE- DIAL 110 FOR EMERGENCY- CRIME PREVENTION COMMITTEE



BANNED. DINED.









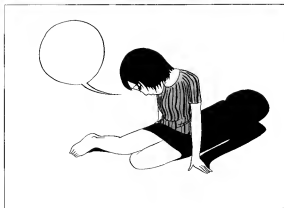






















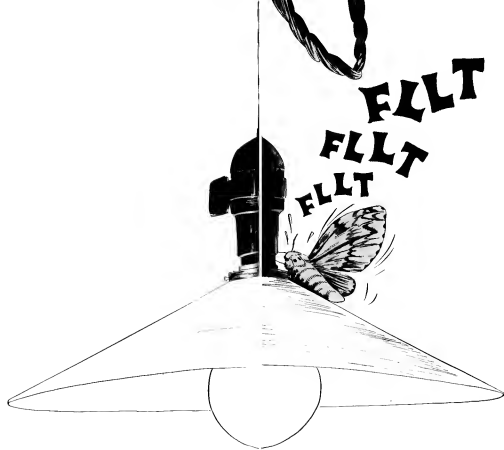






















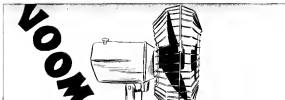


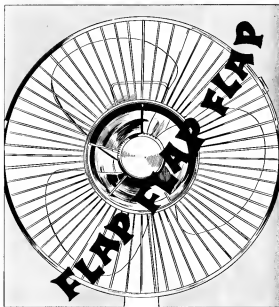








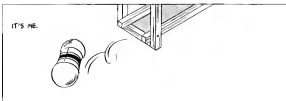
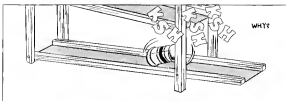
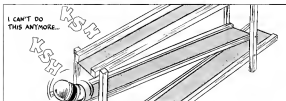
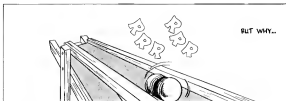






PSHWWW

I DIDN'T
THINK YOU
WERE CAPABLE
OF BREAKING
OFF A
RELATIONSHIP...





















SISTER!
I'M LONELY!



WHAT'S WRONG?
GET A HOLD OF
YOURSELF.

I NEED
SOMEONE TO
HOLD ME...
I DON'T CARE
WHO...



COME INSIDE,
FOR GOD'S
SAKE.

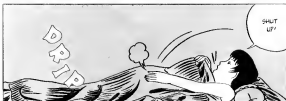
I FEEL LIKE
CRYING.
I FEEL LIKE
CRYING.



I'M ALL ALONE,
AND HE HAS
FAMILY TO
GO TO.















NOTE: PLEASE MEET ME AT "SOH" ON MONDAY AT SIX. -SACHIKO





















O'HON, THEN,
LET'S GO.

YOU CAN
WORK LATER.

ALRIGHT,
LET'S GO.

